



ARUBA TODAY

Aruba's ONLY English newspaper

Monday
February 27, 2023

T: 582-7800
www.arubatoday.com
facebook.com/arubatoday
instagram.com/arubatoday

Aruba Living Today Proudly Presents:
Walishali Condos Aruba

Page 8

Some Democratic-led states seek to bolster voter protections

BY AYANNA ALEXANDER
 Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Lawmakers in several Democratic-controlled states are advocating sweeping voter protections this year, reacting to what they view as a broad undermining of voting rights by the Supreme Court and Republican-led states as well as a failed effort in Congress to bolster access to the polls.

Legislators in Connecticut, Maryland, Minnesota, New Jersey and New Mexico have introduced voting rights measures, while Michigan's secretary of state is preparing a plan.

Among other things, the proposals would require state approval for local governments to change redistricting or voting procedures, ban voter suppression and intimidation, mandate that ballots are printed in more languages, increase protections for voters with disabilities, ensure the right to vote for those with previous felony convictions and instruct judges to prioritize voter access when hearing election-related challenges.



A voter drops his ballot in a drop box at Marilyn J. Praisner Community Recreation Center, during Election Day on Nov. 8, 2022, in Burtonsville, Md.

Continued on Page 2

Associated Press

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT 7 DAYS A WEEK

Professional complimentary pictures on Tuesdays & Fridays

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|---|--|---|--|---|
| MARRYBELL MADURO SINGER 6:30pm - 8:30pm | ANGELA FLORES VIOLINIST 6:30pm - 8:30pm | JEAN PAUL SAXOPHONIST 6:30pm - 8:30pm | EDDIE KROON SINGER 6:30pm - 8:30pm | MARRYBELL MADURO SINGER 6:30pm - 8:30pm | RICKY THOMAS GUITARIST 7:00pm - 9:00pm | ANGELA FLORES VIOLINIST 6:30pm - 8:30pm |

Everyday Happy Hour
 ★ 12-1 / 4-6 / 9-10 ★

All Premium Brands
 Elegant dining, spectacular ocean views
 enjoyed al fresco or in air-conditioned comfort

KARAOKE HAPPY HOUR
 9:00pm - 11:00pm

Reservations at: watersedge-aruba.com

Tel. +297 583 8000 Ext. 8106

Located at Costa Linda Beach Resort

WATER'S EDGE RESTAURANT & BAR

Pinchos Grill & Bar

Live Music Fri - Sat & Sun

Open Everyday 5PM - 11PM

Spectacular setting - all tables over the water

Bar snacks & drinks available

Reservations recommended

583-2666
www.pinchosaruba.com
reservations@pinchosgrillaruba.com

Follow Us

Some Democratic-led states seek to bolster voter protections

Continued from Front

The measures are taking a much wider approach than legislation targeting a single aspect of voting or elections law. They seek to implement on a statewide basis many of the protections under the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, a law that many Democrats and voting rights groups say is being stripped of its most important elements. If the legislation is enacted, the states would join California, New York, Oregon, Washington and Virginia in having comprehensive voting rights laws. "It's up to states now to ensure that the right to vote is protected," said Janai Nelson, president of the the NAACP Legal Defense

Fund. Maryland's proposal includes a requirement for local voting changes to receive preapproval, mirroring core provisions of the federal law that was struck down by the Supreme Court a decade ago. Maryland was not among the states, mostly in the South, that was covered under the provision known as preclearance before the court ended it. But lawmakers there saw it as important because of persistent concerns over how districts for local governing bodies have been drawn, said Morgan Drayton, policy and engagement manager at Common Cause Maryland. "A lot of our maps here are drawn behind closed doors, and there's not a

lot of input from the public that's able to be given," she said. "So this would do a lot to make these processes more transparent." In Maryland's Baltimore County, a lawsuit claimed the county council's map packed most Black voters into a single district. The state legislation would require jurisdictions in Maryland with a history of voter discrimination to have redistricting and election changes cleared by the state attorney general. Democratic state Del. Stephanie Smith, a co-sponsor of the legislation, said that despite Maryland's racial diversity and history of diversity in its political leadership, "access to the ballot and equitable representation is uneven."



A woman votes at the Crystal Ballroom in New Britain, Conn., Nov. 8, 2022.

Associated Press

"This bill strengthens our commitment to voting access and protections at a time of great stress on our democratic institutions," she said.

Proposals in Michigan and New Mexico address harassment against election workers and voters, especially those in minority communities. One of several bills in New Mexico would protect election officials, from the secretary of state to county and municipal elections clerks, from intimidation. That would be defined as inducing or attempting to induce fear, and a violation would be punishable as a fourth-degree felony punishable by up to 18 months in prison. Michigan Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson, a Democrat, said she will seek similar protections for voters, including prohibiting firearms within a certain distance of polling places. "We need an explicit ban on voter suppression and intimidation," she said. Connecticut's legislation would expand language assistance for voters who speak, read or understand languages other than English. Language assistance is covered under the federal law, but only specifies protections for Spanish-speakers and for Asian, Native American and Alaska Native language minorities. Ballots offered in Arabic, Haitian Creole and other languages also are needed, said Steven Lance, policy counsel at the national NAACP Legal Defense Fund. A language would be cov-

ered if the group speaking it is more than 2% of the citizens of voting age in a particular municipality or the group includes more than 4,000 citizens of voting age, under Connecticut's legislative proposal.

In New Jersey, advocacy organizations are pushing to expand voting rights legislation to include more groups that would be specifically protected from discrimination, including the state's sizable Arab American population.

"A reality is the federal VRA was originally crafted in 1965, and while there have been other bills in the decade since, the VRA doesn't reflect the diversity of the population of New Jersey in 2023," said Henal Patel, law & policy director at the New Jersey Institute for Social Justice.

Some state voting rights bills also seek to create databases for information that has not always been readily available, such as polling place locations, voting rules and redistricting maps. The bills also would specify that state judges interpret voting laws in a way that ensures people maintain their right to vote.

Democrats in Minnesota are pushing numerous voting changes, including restoring voting rights to felons as soon as they are released from prison, allowing 16- and 17-year-olds to preregister so they are ready to vote as soon as they turn 18 and automatically registering people to vote when they obtain or renew their driver's licenses. □

Paseo Herencia

Live Entertainment at 8PM

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| <p>MON Latin Dance Show</p> | <p>TUE Steelpan Music</p> |
| <p>WED Cultural Dance Show</p> | <p>THU Acrobatic Show</p> |
| <p>SUN Violin Show</p> | <p>Nightly Watershow 7:30pm - 8:30pm - 9:30pm</p> |

Stores are open from Mon to Sat 10am to 10pm and Sun 5pm to 10pm

www.paseoherencia.com

Panel: Military needs gun safety measures to limit suicides

By LOLITA C. BALDOR

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Defense Department should implement a series of gun safety measures to reduce suicides in the force, an independent committee recommended Friday, calling for waiting periods for the purchase of firearms and ammunition by service members on military property.

The panel said the department should also raise the minimum age for service members to buy guns and ammunition to 25, and should also require anyone living in military housing to register all privately owned firearms. In addition, the panel said the department should restrict the possession and storage of privately owned firearms in military barracks and dorms.

The report reflects increasing concerns about suicides in the military, despite more than a decade of programs and other efforts to prevent them and spur greater intervention by commanders, friends and family members. But gun safety and control measures are likely to face resistance, particularly in Congress, where such legislation has struggled in recent years.

The committee released its findings in a report Friday, saying the Pentagon needs to improve and modern-



A handgun is displayed for sale on June 23, 2022, in Hempstead, N.Y.

ize its suicide prevention training, and take steps to address risk factors such as alcohol use, in order to address recurring spikes in suicides.

"Despite considerable investment in suicide prevention strategies, DOD (the Defense Department) has shown an increasing trend over a 15-year period in suicide rates," said Jerry Reed, a consultant for the panel.

The report said the military infrastructure and other systems have not kept up with the changes in technology. All of that, it said, increases stress and the risks of suicide.

Confirming findings in annual suicide reports, the panel noted that about 66% of all active-duty military suicides — and more than 70% of those by National Guard and Reserve members — are done with firearms. It said reducing access to guns could prevent some deaths.

Craig Bryan, a clinical psychologist and member of the Suicide Prevention and Response Independent Review Committee, said the department should slow down troops' access to guns — specifically those bought in stores on bases — so people under stress can survive periods of high

risk.

He likened the expanded gun safety measures to requirements that the department puts on motorcycle usage — such as mandated helmets — that are often more strict than some state laws. Asked how likely such changes would be, Bryan said he believes troops are more receptive to such limits than civilians may be.

"My sense is that so many of us who have served have lost friends to suicide. And so many of those suicides involve firearms, that we recognize that there is a connection between the two," said Bryan. "Many of

Associated Press

us are tired of our friends and loved ones dying and we recognize that we have to absolutely take on this issue."

He said the choice of age 25 was driven by historical patterns and data, which showed that half of all military suicides happened between the ages of 21 and 25, and that the use of guns for suicides by service members — particularly men — increased after the age of 21.

The panel also concluded that alcohol use and financial problems are often connected to suicides. As a result, it recommended the department fix pay systems to avoid delays, and address excessive alcohol use.

The commission also said the department's "complex and rigid hierarchical structure" impedes its ability to do effective suicide prevention.

Suicides across the active-duty U.S. military decreased a bit during the 18 months from 2021 through June 2022, driven by sharp drops in the Air Force and Marine Corps last year and a similar decline among Army soldiers during the first six months of this year, according to a Pentagon report.

But those numbers show a dramatic reversal of what has been a fairly steady increase in recent years. □



A Care Flight medical transport plane carrying a patient and four others that crashed the day before is seen Saturday, Feb. 25, 2023, in Lyon County, Nev. All five people on board were killed.

Associated Press

STAGECOACH, Nev. (AP) — Authorities are trying to determine the cause of the crash of a medical trans-

port flight that killed all five people aboard the plane, including a patient, in a mountainous area in north-

Cause sought in crash of medical transport flight in Nevada

ern Nevada. The National Transportation Safety Board has sent in a seven-member team of investigators to the site of Friday night's crash near Stagecoach.

The crash occurred amid a winter storm warning issued by the National Weather Service in Reno for large swaths of Nevada, including parts of Lyon County. It was snowing steadily with winds around 20 mph (30 kph) with gusts up to 30 mph (50 kph).

Visibility was under two miles (3.2 kilometers) with a cloud ceiling about 2,000

feet (600 meters) above ground when the flight left Reno for Salt Lake City, Utah, and went down, according to the weather service.

Care Flight, which provides ambulance service by plane and helicopter, identified the downed aircraft as a Pilatus PC-12 and said the pilot, a flight nurse, a flight paramedic, a patient and a patient's family member all died.

Robin Hays, a Stagecoach resident and a former flight nurse, said she heard the sputtering plane fly over

her house before crashing behind her property.

"I knew the plane was in trouble," Hays told the Reno Gazette Journal. "I knew it was going to crash. I was just hoping it wasn't going to crash into my house."

Hays called 911 and went outside but could not see the wreckage because of the blowing snow.

Misty Gruenemay told the newspaper that the wind was howling and the snow blowing hard when she heard what sounded like a whiz and a thump behind her house in Stagecoach. □

Rights to 'Crying Indian' ad to go to Native American group

By **TERRY TANG**
Associated Press

Since its debut in 1971, an anti-pollution ad showing a man in Native American attire shed a single tear at the sight of smokestacks and litter taking over a once unblemished landscape has become an indelible piece of TV pop culture.

It's been referenced over the decades since on shows like "The Simpsons" and "South Park" and in internet memes. But now a Native American advocacy group that was given the rights to the long-parodied public service announcement is retiring it, saying it has always been inappropriate.

The so-called "Crying Indian" with his buckskins and long braids made the late actor Iron Eyes Cody a recognizable face in households nationwide. But to many Native Americans, the public service announcement has been a painful reminder of the enduring stereotypes they face.

The nonprofit that originally commissioned the advertisement, Keep America Beautiful, had long been considering how to retire the ad and announced this week that it's doing so by transferring ownership of the rights to the National Congress of American Indians.

"Keep America Beautiful wanted to be careful and deliberate about how we transitioned this iconic advertisement/public service



Iron Eyes Cody, the "Crying Indian" whose tearful face in 1970s TV commercials became a powerful symbol of the anti-littering campaign, is pictured in this 1986 photo.

Associated Press

announcement to appropriate owners," Noah Ullman, a spokesperson for the nonprofit, said via e-mail. "We spoke to several Indigenous peoples' organizations and were pleased to identify the National Congress of American Indians as a potential caretaker."

NCAI plans to end the use of the ad and watch for any unauthorized use.

"NCAI is proud to assume the role of monitoring the use of this advertisement and ensure it is only used for historical context; this advertisement was inappropriate then and remains inappropriate today," said NCAI Executive Director Larry Wright, Jr. "NCAI looks forward to putting this advertisement to bed for

good."

When it premiered in the 1970s, the ad was a sensation. It led to Iron Eyes Cody filming three follow-up PSAs. He spent more than 25 years making public appearances and visits to schools on behalf of the anti-litter campaign, according to an Associated Press obituary.

From there, Cody, who was Italian American but claimed to have Cherokee heritage through his father, was typecast as a stock Native American character, appearing in over 80 films. Most of the time, his character was simply "Indian," "Indian Chief" or "Indian Joe."

His movie credits from the 1950s-1980s included "Sitting Bull," "The Great Sioux

Massacre," Nevada Smith, "A Man Called Horse" and "Ernest Goes to Camp." On television, he appeared in "Bonanza," "Gunsmoke" and "Rawhide" among others. He also was a technical adviser on Native American matters on film sets.

Dr. Jennifer J. Folsom, a journalism and media communication professor at Colorado State University and a citizen of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, remembers watching the public service announcement as a child.

"At that point, every single person who showed up with braids and buckskins, on TV or anywhere in the movies, I glommed on to that because it was such a rare thing to see," said Fol-

som, whose areas of study include Native American pop culture. "I did see how people littered, and I did see how the creeks and the rivers were getting polluted." But as she grew up, Folsom noticed how media devoted little coverage to Native American environmental activists.

"There's no agency for that sad so-called Indian guy sitting in a canoe, crying," Folsom said. "I think it has done damage to public perception and support for actual Native people doing things to protect the land and protect the environment."

She applauded Keep America Beautiful's decision as an "appropriate move." It will mean a trusted group can help control the narrative the ad has promoted for over 50 years, she said.

The ad's power has arguably already faded as Native and Indigenous youths come of age with a greater consciousness about stereotypes and cultural appropriation. TikTok has plenty of examples of Native people parodying or doing a takedown of the advertisement, Folsom said.

Robert "Tree" Cody, the adopted son of Iron Eyes Cody, said the advertisement had "good intent and good heart" at its core.

"It was one of the top 100 commercials," said Robert Cody, an enrolled member of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community in Arizona. □



The U.S. Food and Drug Administration building behind FDA logos at a bus stop on the agency's campus in Silver Spring, Md., on Aug. 2, 2018.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Food and Drug Administration on Friday approved the first combination test for flu and COVID-19 that can be used at home, giving

consumers an easy way to determine if a runny nose is caused by either disease. The Lucira COVID-19 & Flu Home test, which can be purchased without a pre-

FDA authorizes combination flu-COVID test for home use

scription, uses self-collected nasal swab samples and delivers results in about 30 minutes, the agency said. While at-home COVID tests are readily available, this is the first home test for influenza A and B, commonly known as the flu. The test was granted an emergency use authorization, which facilitates the availability of "medical countermeasures" during public health emergencies.

Jeff Shuren, director of the FDA's Center for Devices and Radiological Health, called the authorization "a major milestone in bringing greater consumer access to diagnostic tests that can be performed entirely at home." The agency said the test is for individuals "with signs and symptoms consistent with a respiratory tract infection" and said it can be used on children as young as 2, with adults col-

lecting the samples. It recommends that tests be reported to healthcare providers and cautions that there is a risk of false positive and negative results. "Individuals who test negative and continue to experience symptoms of fever, cough and/or shortness of breath may still have a respiratory infection and should seek follow-up care with their healthcare provider," the agency said. □

Migrant boat breaks up off Italian coast, killing nearly 60



Rescued migrants sit covered in blankets at a beach near Cutro, southern Italy, Sunday, Feb. 26, 2023.

By FRANCES D'EMILIO

Associated Press

ROME (AP) — A wooden boat crowded with migrants smashed into rocky reefs and broke apart before dawn Sunday off the Italian coast, authorities said. Rescuers recovered nearly 60 bodies, and dozens more people were missing in the rough waters. Officials feared the death toll could top 100 since some survivors indicated the boat had as many as 200 passengers when it set out from Turkey, United Nations refugee and migration agencies said.

At least 80 people were found alive, including some who reached the shore after the shipwreck just off Calabria's coastline along the Ionian Sea, the Italian Coast Guard said. One of the agency's motorboats rescued two men suffering from hypothermia and recovered the body of a boy. As sundown approached, firefighters said 59 bodies had been found.

One man was taken into custody for questioning after fellow survivors indicated he was a trafficker, state TV said.

The boat collided with the reefs in rough, wind-whipped seas. Three big chunks of the vessel ended up on the beach near the town of Steccato di Cutro, where splintered pieces of

bright blue wood littered the sand like matchsticks.

"All of the survivors are adults," Red Cross volunteer Ignazio Mangione said. "Unfortunately, all the children are among the missing or were found dead on the beach." A baby was reported among the dead. Motorboats were expected to continue searching through the night, despite worsening weather conditions. Rescue divers struggled with tall waves.

Italian state TV quoted survivors as saying the boat had set out five days earlier from Turkey.

Standing next to the wreckage on the beach, a reporter for Italian RAI state TV noted a life preserver bearing the word "Smyrna," a Turkish port also known as Izmir.

More than 170 migrants were estimated to have been aboard the ship, the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Organization for Migration said in a joint statement.

Among them were "children and entire families," according to the U.N. statement, with most of the passengers from Afghanistan, Pakistan and Somalia.

Earlier, in an indication of the difficulty in establishing how many passengers had set out on the voyage, Italian Premier Giorgia Mel-

oni said some 200 people had been crowded into a 20-meter (66-foot) boat.

The rescue operation involved a helicopter and police aircraft, as well as vessels from state firefighter squads, the Coast Guard and border police. Local fishermen also joined in the search.

The bodies were brought to the sports stadium in the nearest city, Crotone. A local priest said he blessed many of them while they were still lying on the beach.

Many of the survivors, wrapped in blankets and quilts, were taken by bus to a temporary shelter. State TV said 22 survivors were taken to a hospital.

Pope Francis told the faithful in St. Peter's Square that he was praying for the dead, the missing and the survivors. He added he also was praying for the rescuers "and for those who give welcome" to the migrants. "It's an enormous tragedy," Crotone Mayor Vincenzo Voce told RAI. "In solidarity, the city will find places in the cemetery" for the dead.

In 2022, some 105,000 migrants arrived on Italian shores, some 38,000 more than in 2021, according to Interior Ministry figures.

According to U.N. figures, arrivals from the Turkish route accounted for 15%

of the total number, with nearly half of those fleeing from Afghanistan.

In a statement released by the premier's office Sunday, Meloni expressed "her deep sorrow for the many human lives torn away by human traffickers."

"It's inhumane to exchange the lives of men, women and children for the 'price' of a ticket paid by them in the false prospect for a safe voyage," said Meloni, a far-right leader whose governing allies include the anti-migrant League party. She vowed to crack down on departures arranged by human smugglers and to press fellow European Union leaders to help.

Opposition parties pointed to Sunday's tragedy as proof of the flaws in Italy's migration policy.

"The truth is that the EU today doesn't offer effective alternatives for those who are forced to abandon their country of origin," Ferrara said in a statement.

Another route employed by traffickers crosses the central Mediterranean Sea from Libya's coast, where migrants often endure brutal detention conditions for months before they are allowed to board rubber dinghies or aging wooden fishing boats for Italian shores. The route is considered one of the deadliest.

Meloni's government has concentrated on complicating efforts by humanitarian boats to make multiple rescues in the central Mediterranean by assigning them ports of disembarkation along Italy's northern coasts, meaning the vessels need more time to return to the sea after bringing those rescued aboard, often hundreds of migrants, safely to shore.

Humanitarian organizations have lamented that the crackdown also includes an order to the charity boats not to remain at sea after the first rescue operation in hopes of performing other rescues, but to head immediately to their assigned port of safety. Violators face stiff fines and confiscation of the rescue vessel. □

**ARUBA
OSTRICH
FARM**



MUST VISIT!

- Fun Tour
- The best Shaved Ice
- Delicious lunch
- Fresh Fruits Smoothies
- Ice cold beer
- Unique local art Shop
- #1 Farmers Market

(Every 1st Sunday of the month)



Restaurant

RESERVATIONS IS RECOMMENDED

due to preparations and limited availability on ostrich/emu eggs.

info@arubaostrichfarm.com

or Tel: 585-9630

OPEN DAILY:
10:00 – 4:00 pm
**NO RESERVATION
NECESSARY FOR TOURS**

Fleeing Nicaraguans a boon to economy back home

By **GABRIELA SELSER**

Associated Press

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Each month, Antón Martínez, 38, sets aside \$200 from his wages as a dishwasher in the United States to send home to his mother in Nicaragua.

Martínez wishes it could be more, but he's still trying to find his footing in the new country and pay off the debt of his migration. His monthly contribution to family back home was part of a 50% surge in remittances to Nicaragua in 2022, a massive jump that analysts attribute to the thousands of Nicaraguans who emigrated to the U.S. in the past two years.

They have been leaving as the government intensifies a crackdown on opposition voices since early 2021, high global inflation slams families' buying power and job opportunities remain limited at home.

That swell of Nicaraguan arrivals to the U.S. was part of the reason the Biden administration announced in January that it would begin turning them away at the border if they did not first register online to make asylum petitions. Their numbers have dropped precipitously since.

But Martínez, who arrived in late 2021, and others already there are keep-



A candy vendor walks past a Western Union branch in Managua, Nicaragua, Saturday, Feb. 25, 2023.

ing Nicaragua's economy afloat with the more than \$3.2 billion they sent home last year.

Last year's huge jump, "can only be explained by the disproportionate increase in migrants," Nicaraguan economist Enrique Sáenz said.

Emigration "has become (President Daniel Ortega's) main macroeconomic policy and his main social policy," Saenz said.

Ortega's increasingly authoritarian government has drawn sanctions from the U.S. government and Europe, but the measures

have been targeted toward his inner circle and members of his administration to avoid adding more economic hardship for average Nicaraguans.

Still, for the fiscal year ending last September, U.S. authorities recorded more than 163,000 encounters with Nicaraguans, more than three times the 2021 total. Encounters peaked in December with more than 35,000 and then plummeted to 3,377 in January.

The reasons vary from a lack of economic opportunity to outright persecution of political opponents

and voices of dissent. Ortega cracked down violently after popular protests broke out in April 2018. He ratcheted up the pressure in 2021 ahead of national elections.

Earlier this month, he put 222 imprisoned opponents on a plane to Washington, saying he was sending the "terrorists" back to their foreign sponsor.

Until last year, Costa Rica had been the primary destination for Nicaraguans in recent years. But the small neighboring country's asylum system is overwhelmed, the wait now stretches

years and its economy has struggled to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. Costa Rica President Rodrigo Chaves tightened the generous asylum system in December, arguing that it was being abused by economic migrants.

Those factors made the U.S. a more attractive destination despite the distance. Ortega blames the U.S. sanctions for the emigration.

In Martínez's case, he left because he had participated in anti-government protests in 2018 and feared he could be arrested at any moment. "I miss my mother and I love Nicaragua, but there was nothing else to do. It was leave or be taken prisoner at some point."

Many others reached the same decision.

Nicaragua's government released data late last year showing that between Sept. 17 and Oct. 7, it issued 20,192 passports. In the capital, residents camped out on sidewalks just to get one of the limited numbers called each day to process a passport application.

Sabrina Gazol Moncada, a 28-year-old college student who had to drop out to find work, left Nicaragua in October, the month after her husband travelled to the U.S. □



Afghan refugees hold placards during a protest in Islamabad, Pakistan, Sunday, Feb. 26, 2023.

Associated Press

By **RAHIM FAIEZ**

Associated Press

ISLAMABAD (AP) — Hundreds of Afghan refugees facing extreme delays in the approval of U.S. vi-

sas protested in Pakistan's capital on Sunday, as an American program to help relocate at-risk Afghans fleeing Taliban rule stalls.

The U.S. government's Prior-

Afghan refugees in Pakistan protest delay in U.S. resettlement

ity 1 and Priority 2, known as P1 and P2 refugee programs were meant to fast track visas for at-risk Afghans including journalists and rights activists after the Taliban takeover in their homeland.

Those eligible must have worked for the U.S. government, a U.S.-based media organization or nongovernmental organization in Afghanistan, and must be referred by the U.S.-based employer.

Applicants have been waiting in Pakistan for more than one and a half years for U.S. officials to process

their visa applications.

The delay in approving visas and resettlement has left Afghan applicants in a highly vulnerable position as they contend with economic hardship and lack of access to health, education and other services in Pakistan.

Protesters said that applicants had yet to receive the preliminary interview necessary to begin the visa application process.

"We, the holders of P1/P2 cases, your allies, and colleagues, played significant role toward expansion of democracy, human rights,

and freedom of expression. We are currently asking for your support and companionship in the bad days of life," read one banner held by Afghan demonstrators. Hesamuddin, an Afghan who is waiting on the processing of his P2 case, said authorities should evacuate Afghan P1 and P2 applicants to a country where the necessary resettlement support centers (RSC) are open and able to conduct interviews. "They must evacuate us to another country where RSCs are functioning and can process there," he said. □



Casa del Mar
BEACH RESORT

You have vacation dreams, we have dream vacations.

contact us now for a viewing at one of our renovated suites

Selling prices starting at US\$ 1500 per suite!

+297-582-7000 Ext. 614
sales@casadelmar-aruba.net

Casa del Mar Beach Resort & Timeshare Aruba

Your own piece of Aruba, a hidden gem



History

If you are a regular visitor to Aruba since the 70's, you probably can recall the Sun Development group, who at that time were way ahead of the times in introducing time-share to Aruba and by using the latest in construction techniques all around the island.

Being pioneers, Sun Development opened the doors of Casa del Mar Beach Resort Phase I, in October 1986. Two-bedroom Presidential suites were presented and well received. Aruba's tourism was taking off and Sun Development was at the helm, with Phase I sold out and demand for more inventory increasing almost daily, July 1987, the second phase of Casa del Mar Beach Resort was announced, and opened in January of 1989, with many existing members buying or upgrading suites in Phase II. With a separate building constructed in 1989, 40 additional one-bedroom suites across the street named the Ambassador Building, were added to Casa del Mar Beach Resort Aruba, which now consists of 147 well-appointed suites in total.

The resort

Where to begin? Casa del Mar Beach Resort in Aruba, where a world famous white sandy beach meets clear blue-green Caribbean water. Whether you are looking for a romantic getaway or family time in the Caribbean filled with fun, water sports and activities, Casa del Mar Beach Resort Aruba has it all and is located on Aruba's top 10 of the world, beautiful Eagle Beach. Casa del Mar offers you "Your own piece of Aruba". With over 37 years of existence, Casa del Mar is one of the most overlooked hidden gems in the low-rise hotel area. Although it can be referred to as a "smaller resort", the accommodations are anything but small.

With different concessionaires and amenities on property such as Matthews Beach Side Restaurant, Santos Coffee with Soul, Clinical Massage Spa, Thrifty Car rental, a recently renovated pickleball and tennis court, two pool areas, Mini Market, Pelican Adventures with inhouse concierge services, along with many activities for all ages, the list goes on. In addition, the Alhambra Mall across the street, offers dining and shopping options as well as one of the largest casinos on the island. The resort is surrounded by multiple fine dining restaurants, all within walking distance. The suites themselves are large and luxurious enough to comfortably sleep families of four to six people, depending on suite type. These suites are available to both transient guests and through life-long ownership by timeshare purchase.

Renovations and Re-branding

2022 has been a celebratory year for Casa del Mar Beach Resort, with all 40 Ambassador suites bathrooms being renovated, Casa del Mar Beach Resort & Timeshare is moving their renovations to the 107 two-bedroom Presidential suite bathrooms next. Combining this with a re-branding strategy, redesigning their logo after 37 years, a new website and different branding and marketing strategies they have decided to head for a noticeable change of direction. Looking towards the future of the resort, the next years look extremely bright for Casa del Mar Beach Resort, through their commitment to upgrading and elevating their services, the goal is continuing the prosperity of the past 37 years, well into the future.

What to expect

Experience all that Casa del Mar Beach Resort & Timeshare Aruba has to offer, by booking your

next stay with them. You'll experience a warm and welcoming Caribbean ambience with a management team and staff who is always willing to assist with anything you need. Schedule a brief tour without any further obligation with their Sales Agent during your current vacation and receive a free day pass in return with a welcome drink from Matthews Beach Side Restaurant while overlooking the beach. The existing owners who bought their lifetime ownerships in the 80's will greet you with a smile and share stories with you of being part of the "Casa del Mar Family" as the resort and owners always refer to. Many still come to the island with their families or have handed their timeshare down to the next generations, who grew up loving Aruba and continue to bring their kids here to experience the resort and people of this beautiful island.

Buying "Your own piece of Aruba"

Casa del Mar Beach Resort & Timeshare Aruba offers a wide variety of inventory available from ocean fronts, garden side and pool views at starting prices as low as US\$ 1500 for a one bedroom renovated suite. With the upcoming renovations of the two-bedroom Presidential suites, we recommend buying in at current listing prices, as the property value is set to increase further after the renovations are complete. By purchasing your preferred week and suite type, you will receive a deed guaranteeing you a lifelong ownership with Casa del Mar Beach Resort & Timeshare Aruba, who currently also offers one of the lowest maintenance fees on the entire island. For more information - visit their recently relaunched website www.casadelmar-aruba.com where you will be able to find all information needed to explore "Your own piece of Aruba". □



ARUBA LIVING TODAY
Your partner in property mediation

PRESENTS

COMMANDEURS
"A way of living today"

(+297) 593 - 91 77 | randolph@livingtoday.aw | www.livingtoday.aw

sale starts now

PHASE 1
started september 2020

PHASE 2
approx. start 1st quarter 2021

PHASE 3
approx. start medio 2022





FULL SOLAR OCEAN VIEW COMMUNITY POOL ELEVATOR COVERED PARKING HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION LOW MAINTENANCE

Starting at \$152,000,-



Aruba Living Today Proudly Presents: Walishali Condos Aruba

This Modern and Excellent Located Condominium Is Now on Pre – Sale.

From the well known local Developer of Waykiri Condos and Wariruri Condos. They are now introducing in Aruba their newest Project: Walishali Condos Aruba.

Build on a property land and close to the Eagle Beach which is considered one of the most beautiful beaches in the world and close to 2 may-or supermarkets which are Super Food and Ling and sons, low rise and high rise hotels and downtown. Walishali Condominiums offers you a fully 70 furnished

nished condos consists of: A Fully Furnished and equipped 1-2 and 3 bedrooms with high-end designs, fully equipped kitchens, amenities and facilities.

Large swimming pool with water fountains, Jacuzzi, bbq area, gazebos, gym a covered rooftop sky-

lounge, coffeshop, delibar and assigned parking spot.

Prices starting at USD 299.000.-

*60% reserved already so don't miss the opportunity to own a piece of paradise. ☐



Sending You A Bucket Full of Sand.

Mr. Randolph Arends.
Property Mediator.
TankiLeender: #291.
Cell: 5939177.
Tel/fax: 5879987.
Tel: 5879985

Or go on our website:
www.livingtoday.aw.



Aruba to me

ORANJESTAD — You are back and we would like to portrait you! By inviting you to send us your favorite vacation picture while enjoying our Happy Island.

Complete the sentence: Aruba to me is Send your picture with that text (including your name and where you are from) to: news@arubatoday.com and we will publish your vacation mem-

ory. Isn't that a special way to keep your best moments alive?

For today we received a lovely message from **Mignon and Allen Anthony from St. Augustine, Florida.**

They wrote to us saying: "Aruba is to me has been a most special gift to our life on Earth.

My husband and I have been

members at LaQuinta Beach Resort since 1998 and coming to Aruba several times a year since. We recently retired to St Augustine, Florida from Maryland - but there is nothing like our always second home, Aruba!"

Thank you for sending us this heartfelt message sharing what Aruba means to you with us and our readers! ☐



playa linda
beach resort

YOUR PLACE IN THE SUN

RESORT OWNERSHIP AT
ARUBA FINEST TIMESHARE RESORT

Playa Linda Sales Office: Mon-Fri (8am-4pm)
sales@playalinda.com or call (+297)-586-1000
Toll free number: 1-888-281-4544

Aruba Tourism Authority honored loyal visitors at Playa Linda Beach Resort

EAGLE BEACH - Recently, Aruba Tourism Authority representative Ms. Olga Ruiz had the great pleasure in honoring many loyal Aruba visitors with their distinctive certificates. These certificates are a way to say "Masha Danki" for continuously choosing Aruba as a favorite vacation destination. The titles are as following: 10+ years "Distinguished Visitor", 20+ years "Goodwill Ambassador" and 36+ years "Emerald Ambassador".

The honorees are:

Jerry & Helen Giorlando resident of New York, United States who have been visiting for 34 years and were honored as Goodwill Ambassadors.

Arnold & Marcelle Watkin residents of Massachusetts, United States who have been visiting for 40 years and were honored as Emerald Ambassadors.

This symbolic honorary title is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to the guests who visit Aruba between the 10-20-35 and more consecutive year mark.

Ms. Olga Ruiz representing the Aruba Tourism Authority, and members of the

Playa Linda Beach Resort bestowed the certification of the Goodwill and Emerald Ambassadors of Aruba. The honorees were presented with the respective certificates and with memorable gifts.

On behalf of the Government of Aruba, we would like to express our gratitude and appreciation to all the Ambassadors for making Aruba their preferred vacation destination for so many years. We are so thankful to have had such wonderful Ambassadors as our visitors after all these years! Aruba is unquestionably their home away from home!

The honorees were asked what their top reasons to return to the island were, to which they answered as follows.

Mr. & Mrs. Giorlando reasons:

The weather
The people
The sand
The restaurants
The safety

Mr. & Mrs. Watkin reasons:

The weather
The people
The restaurants
The ocean
Because it is truly "One Happy Island" ☐



beauty & THE BEACH

Aruba Today is delighted to share to its readers a new segment called "Beauty and the Beach", where we take a minute to honor our guests who have decided to spend their vacation on our beautiful and warm island.

In this edition, we'd like to give a shout out to **Luis & Karla from Peru**, who said their favorite things on the island were the sandy beaches. Aruba is always proud to host all families and guests. We at Aruba Today encourage any visitor of the island to send in their pictures and/or messages; who knows? You might get on the cover!

Alhambra
CASINO AND SHOPS
casinoalhambra.com

Exploring the Mainstreet of San Nicolas



SAN NICOLAS— At Just 11 miles southeast from Oranjestad you will enter the city San Nicolas, also known as Sunrise City or Chocolate City. A city that is rich in authentic culture and island charm. San Nicolas is Aruba's second largest city and was once a bustling company town dominated by the oil industry since the early 1930's.

Over the course of four decades, its demographics had changed immensely due to a stream of Afro-Caribbean and South American workers who came to fill the jobs in the oil refinery between the 1920's until the 1960's. To this day traces of the multicultural influences in culinary offerings and customs, housing and population are clearly visible in San Nicolas - more than anywhere else on the island.

Flow of history

if you are looking for history San Nicolas has it. Here you will find three amazing museums, The Museum of Industry, the Community Museum and the Carnival Euphoria, all within walking distance from one another. The Museum of Industry is situated in the Water Tower in San Nicolas and narrates Aruba's industrial history which began in the 19th century. Here you will learn about gold,

aloe, phosphate, oil and the tourism industries which made San Nicolas once a bustling business center. Experience the touching stories of those who were part of this history.

Nicolaas Store built in 1940 and renovated in 2014 is the home of the Community Museum. The collection is remarkable and spans millennia. Ancient fossils stand next to tableaus of an authentically recreated colonial kitchen and bedroom and 19th-century barbershop, just to name a few of the items of old-time Aruba that has been preserved. A collection of artifacts and other objects of artistic, cultural, historical, or scientific importance can be found here for the purpose of education or enjoyment.

Carnival Euphoria is showcasing Aruba's Carnival. See how are Carnival has developed over the past 65 years.

The new San Nicolas

In the shadow of the refinery, an art capital is quietly beginning to grow. This is the new San Nicolas, a place that is starting to become a magnet for all that is young, cool and hip in Aruba. Indeed, San Nicolas has all of the ingredients of an emerging cultural hub — varied history, interesting architecture, and, perhaps most importantly, an urban layout that makes it walkable. As you walk around, the streets are silent but the walls are loud, filled with bright, colorful murals painted by a collection of artists from around the world. Thanks to the efforts of various art organizations in Aruba, such as Art Rules Aruba and Aruba Art Fair, San Nicolas has had quite the aesthetic makeover with regards to vibrant street art. Each year more and more stunning murals are replacing broken down buildings with colorful art pieces that keep brightening up SunriseCity.

Must See, Do, Buy & Eat

A little bit of everything can be found in the main street. Stores selling shoes, clothing, jewelry you name it. Arts & crafts by Co-secha store & Creative Center, a design store in which you can immerse yourself



in discovering genuine and locally made arts and crafts which reflect the diversification of the Aruban craft heritage and the artistic supply of artisans. Don't miss out on trying the exquisite food offered by the cafes and restaurants or just enjoy a peaceful walk admiring the murals, mosaic benches and all the history San Nicolas has to offer. □





insini
by Urvin Croes

Welcome at our table

Step inside our meticulously designed Chef's Table restaurant, located on scenic Eagle Beach, for a 12-course menu prepared in front of your very own eyes.

Taste sensational dishes made by the team led by Chef Urvin Croes, where they explore without boundaries and offer a dining experience you will never forget.









Let us take you
on a culinary
journey



www.infiniaruba.com



Edward Cheung takes the University of Aruba to space in recent lecture

On Thursday, the 23rd of February, Dr. Edward Cheung gave a lecture titled "An evening in Space: The Story of an Aruban Engineer at NASA" at the University of Aruba. In this lecture, Dr. Cheung shared his life story and experience at NASA, as well as answered some burning questions about space technology and his hopes for the future of the space institution.

The evening started with a small introduction from University director Prof. dr. Viola Heutger, in which she expressed her gratitude for Dr. Cheung's presence. Additionally, she expressed her pride in being able to host someone that has direct knowledge and experience with one of the world's most famous organization for space exploration. Prof. dr. Heutger ended her introduction with a thanks to the audience as she passed the mic to Dr. Cheung.

Dr. Cheung's higher academic career started in Aruba, where he attended Colegio Arubano secondary school at both San Nicolas and Oranjestad. After receiving his high school diploma, he continued his studies at Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Worcester, Massachusetts and Yale University in Connecticut, which he studied electrical engineering at

both.

Since childhood, Edward expressed a passion for engineering; he shared with the public a childhood memory in which he remembered being fascinated by the mechanisms of his radio and the possibilities this piece of technology had. For him, it was "magic". From that day onward, he developed a passion for engineering and tinkering. Currently, Dr. Cheung is based at Goddard Space Flight Center in Maryland. He has been working for NASA for 32 years, in which he led and participated in various projects, including the famous Hubble Telescope.

During his lecture, Dr. Cheung of course mentioned his viral video of him floating in zero gravity, during which he opened the Aruban flag. This was a huge moment for the island, as this is the first time that our home country was being represented in such an extraordinary circumstance. Dr. Cheung expressed that he did not think that the video would become a hit, but he was evidently proven wrong. He also shared his plan to bring white sand from Aruba to the moon. This idea came about after watching several documentaries on the moon landing in 1969. He realized that the astronauts were able

to leave some of their belongings on the moon. This inspired the doctor, because he thought what a great privilege it would be to be one of the few on the planet to have something on the moon. He decided he wanted to bring some of the white sand of Aruba's beaches to the moon, as this is something that the Aruban community shares collectively. He also mentioned that it was important for him to be able to vocalize his reason for this, for which he said: "To show that the reach of someone on this island goes beyond this world."

Coincidentally, Dr. Cheung is a part of a new NASA program in which they will be making a commercial flight back to the moon. The doctor was one of the few experts assigned to advise some groups of organizations and institutions before their trip. Because of this, he thought what better time to take the sand to the moon. Dr. Cheung expressed that the project is due this March.

During his lecture, Dr. Cheung also answered some questions covering different topics about NASA's methods, technology and even aspirations. He shared with the audience his experience with the Hubble Telescope. For this project, the doctor expressed that he wanted



to further promote Aruba at NASA. To do this, he named the relay machine that his team was building "ARUBA". However, in order to get the name for his "ARUBA box" approved by his superiors, he needed to make it an abbreviation for a much longer name, so he concluded that "ARUBA" stands for "ASCS/NCS Relay Unit Breaker Assembly." This way, he managed to get the name approved.

The lecture was a highly interactive one, where the audience enthusiastically asked the doctor many questions about a range of topics, including on the mechanisms of the James Webb Telescope,

from which NASA recently shared extraordinary pictures of the far galaxy. He also covered topics such as sustainability within NASA projects, as well as his and NASA's future goals for space exploration.

Dr. Cheung ended his lecture with an advice for the youths of Aruba, in which he pointed out that he came to be where he is now because of his hard work and curiosity. So, he advises the youth to do the same, to keep doing self-study and keep being a "tinkerer." Finally, he also expressed that NASA's future is "bright", and he hopes for bigger telescopes for further exploration of our universe. □

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 37 Labor
 - 1 Shaker fill
 - 5 Church Domini feature
 - 10 Inkling tariff to
 - 11 Pierced
 - 13 Brooklyn team

- DOWN**
- 14 Rancorous
 - 15 Sparkly stuff
 - 17 Inventor Whitney
 - 18 Members of the graduating class
 - 19 Animal abode
 - 20 CPR expert
 - 21 Music genre
 - 22 Sheriff's group
 - 25 Polite chaps
 - 26 Meter or liter
 - 27 Feeding-time need
 - 28 Skillet
 - 29 Large cactus
 - 33 Lupino of film
 - 34 Animal, informally
 - 35 Roadside eyesore

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| F | R | A | M | E | D | S | A | G | E |
| R | E | L | A | T | E | T | R | A | M |
| I | R | O | N | O | N | A | R | G | O |
| C | A | N | O | N | S | T | I | L | T |
| K | N | E | W | S | T | E | V | I | E |
| | | | A | S | T | O | E | N | D |
| | | | T | U | R | Q | U | O | I |
| | | | T | I | N | U | N | D | O |
| | | | A | L | I | B | I | S | W |
| | | | R | A | T | E | D | T | E |
| | | | O | P | I | E | T | O | I |
| | | | T | I | N | T | A | T | O |
| | | | S | A | G | S | G | O | U |

Saturday's answer

- 1 Croons
- 2 "Hello" singer
- 3 Admit
- 4 Most delicious
- 5 Physicist Einstein
- 6 Animal abodes
- 7 Blasting stuff
- 8 Took, as advice
- 9 Incumbent's verb
- 12 Bar orders
- 16 Big book
- 21 Contradiction
- 22 Eye features
- 23 Trying to lose
- 24 "My Way" singer
- 25 Leslie Caron movie
- 27 Like jail windows
- 29 Play part
- 30 Make amends
- 31 Queen, in Spain
- 32 Acrylic fiber
- 36 Cowboy nickname

| | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 | | | | | | | | | 12 |
| 13 | | | | | | | | | |
| 14 | | | | | | | | | |
| 15 | | | | 16 | | | 17 | | |
| 18 | | | | | | | 19 | | |
| 20 | | | | | | | 21 | | |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | | | | 25 | | | |
| 26 | | | | | | 27 | | | |
| 28 | | | | 29 | | | 30 | 31 | 32 |
| 33 | | | | 34 | | | | | |
| 35 | | | 36 | | | | 37 | | |
| 38 | | | | | | | 39 | | |
| 40 | | | | | | | 41 | | |

2-27

AXYDIBAA XR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's. X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

2-27

CRYPTOQUOTE

Q R M G D R M R Z Z E D R X W Z G O R
Z C T D D C J R E D R X M Z G O R
F Y M N X M N F X S R Z Y G H W R R

— NXJYN ACLYR

Saturday's Cryptoquote: IT IS HARD TO FAIL, BUT IT IS WORSE NEVER TO HAVE TRIED TO SUCCEED. THEODORE ROOSEVELT

Casinos and consulting? Pandemic spurs tribes to diversify



A van blocks a main entrance to Foxwoods Resort Casino, in Mashantucket, Conn., May 22, 2020.

Associated Press

By SUSAN HAIGH
Associated Press
MASHANTUCKET, Conn.

(AP) — When the COVID-19 pandemic shuttered Foxwoods Resort Casino in Connecticut for three months in 2020, its owners, the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation, had to reckon with decades of relying heavily on gambling as the tribe's main source of revenue.

"The fact that the casino revenues went from millions to zero overnight just fully reiterated the need for diverse revenue streams," said Tribal Chairman Rodney Butler.

The 1,000-member tribe has since expanded its efforts to get into the federal government contracting business, making it one of several tribal nations to look beyond the casino business more seriously after the coronavirus crisis. Tribal leaders and tribal business experts say the global pandemic has been the latest and clearest sign that tribal governments with casinos can't depend solely on slot ma-

chines and poker rooms to support future generations. In Michigan, the Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomi Indians, or Gun Lake Tribe, recently announced a 25-year plan to develop hundreds of acres near its casino into a corridor with housing, retail, manufacturing and a new 15-story hotel. A non-gambling entity owned by the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, also in Michigan, is now selling "NativeWahl" burger franchises to other tribes after forming a 2021 partnership with Wahlburgers, the national burger chain created by the celebrity brothers Paul, Mark and Donnie Wahlberg. Some tribes, with and without casinos, have gotten involved in a wide range of non-gambling businesses, such as trucking, construction, consulting, health care, real estate, cannabis and marketing over the past decade or longer while others have been branching out more recently.

"While enterprise diversification can come with

costs, its necessity became clear during the early phases of the pandemic, when tribally owned casinos were shut down to mitigate COVID-19 transmission and gaming-dependent tribes were left with little incoming revenue," according to a new report from the Center for Indian Country Development at the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis.

The report found that many tribes are increasingly doing business with the federal government, especially the U.S. Department of Defense.

The Mashantucket Pequots' non-gambling entity, Command Holdings, last year made its largest acquisition to date: WWC Global, a Florida-based management consulting firm that predominantly works with federal agencies, including the defense and state departments. WWC announced in December that it had been awarded a \$37.5 million contract supporting the federal Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency. WWC Global CEO Jon Panamaroff applauded the Mashantucket Pequots' casino and hospitality business but noted that it can be subject to the "ups and downs of the market," making it important to branch out economically. A member of the Sun'aaq Tribe of Kodiak, Alaska, he credited the Mashantucket Pequots' tribal leaders with doubling down on diversification efforts during the pandemic instead of "shying away and trying to hunker down."

Butler said the tribe hopes non-gambling revenues, including from a planned family resort with a 91,000-square-foot (8,450-square-meter) water park that's expected to open in 2025, will eventually comprise 50% to 80% of the Mashantucket Pequots' portfolio, providing "stability and certainty" when another challenging event undoubtedly will happen. □

Honey Dolls
MASSAGE AND ESCORT SERVICE

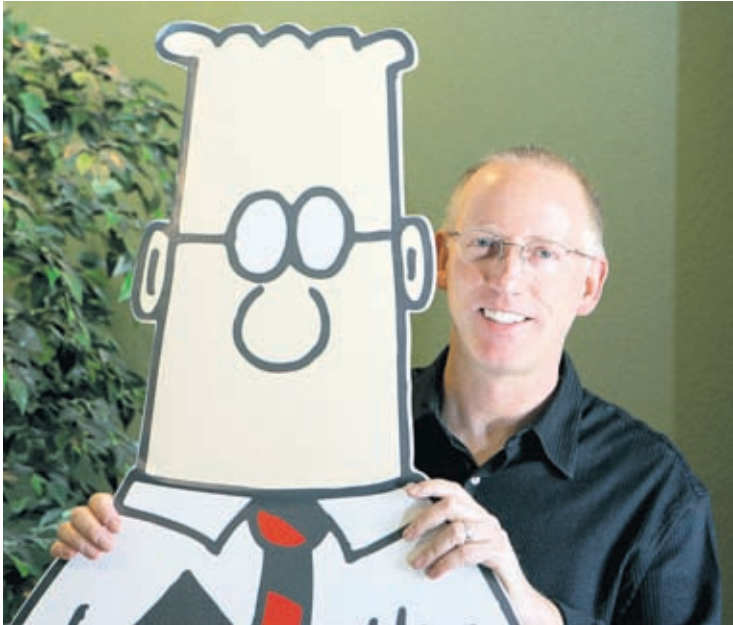
Beautiful Latin Girls
Pick-up & Delivery

Serving Men - Couple - Women - All Genders

+297 565-9535

WWW.PLEASUREINARUBA.COM

Media drop Dilbert after creator's Black 'hate group' remark



Scott Adams, creator of the comic strip Dilbert, poses for a portrait with the Dilbert character in his studio in Dublin, Calif., Oct. 26, 2006.

Associated Press

By DAVID A. LIEB
Associated Press

The creator of the Dilbert comic strip faced a backlash of cancellations Saturday while defending remarks describing people who are Black as members of "a hate group" from which white people should "get away." Various media publishers across the U.S. denounced the comments by Dilbert creator Scott Adams as racist, hateful and discriminatory while saying they would no longer provide a platform for his work. Andrews McMeel Syndication, which distributes Dilbert, did not immediately respond Saturday to requests for comment. But Adams defended himself on social media against those whom he said "hate me and are canceling me." Dilbert is a long-running

comic that pokes fun at office-place culture.

The backlash began following an episode this past week of the YouTube show, "Real Coffee with Scott Adams." Among other topics, Adams referenced a Rasmussen Reports survey that had asked whether people agreed with the statement "It's OK to be white."

Most agreed, but Adams noted that 26% of Black respondents disagreed and others weren't sure. The Anti-Defamation League says the phrase was popularized in 2017 as a trolling campaign by members of the discussion forum 4chan but then began being used by some white supremacists. Adams, who is white, repeatedly referred to people who are Black as members of a "hate group" or a "racist hate group" and

said he would no longer "help Black Americans."

"Based on the current way things are going, the best advice I would give to white people is to get the hell away from Black people," Adams said on his Wednesday show.

In another episode of his online show Saturday, Adams said he had been making a point that "everyone should be treated as an individual" without discrimination. "But you should also avoid any group that doesn't respect you, even if there are people within the group who are fine," Adams said.

The Los Angeles Times cited Adams' "racist comments"

while announcing Saturday that Dilbert will be discontinued Monday in most editions and that its final run in the Sunday comics — which are printed in advance — will be March 12. The San Antonio Express-News, which is part of Hearst Newspapers, said Saturday that it will drop the Dilbert comic strip, effective Monday, "because of hateful and discriminatory public comments by its creator." □



Marriott Aruba Surf Club PLATINUM SEASON

2 Bed Oceanfront \$35,000
2 Bed Oceanside \$19,000
2 Bed Ocean view \$22,000
2 Bed Garden view \$15,000
3 Bed Ocean view \$30,000
WK 51 Ocean view \$65,000
WK 52 Ocean View \$65,000
WK 7 and 14 - all views
GOLD SEASON
2 Bed Oceanfront \$18,000
2 Bed Oceanside \$9,750
2 Bed Ocean view \$9,000
2 Bed Garden view \$7,000
3 Bed Ocean view \$16,500

Marriott Aruba Ocean Club PLATINUM SEASON

2 Bed Oceanfront \$36,000
2 Bed Ocean view \$23,750
1 Bed Ocean front \$21,000
1 Bed Ocean View \$15,000
GOLD SEASON
2 Bed Oceanfront \$18,000
2 Bed Ocean view \$10,000
1 Bed oceanfront \$11,000
1 Bed ocean View \$7,500

** Destination Points \$5.00 per point

La Cabana Beach Resort

1 Bed wk 39 \$4,500

**We are the #1
Rental Timeshare
agent for Aruba!**

We also RENT Aruba weeks for owners, Contact us to BUY, SELL or RENT any timeshare property.

Contact:
stephanier@conciergerealty.com
888-888-2204 Ext 104

Website:
www.conciergerealty.com
Broker: Stephanie Reidel
www.facebook.com/groups/MarriottArubaSurf/
www.facebook.com/groups/MarriottArubaOcean

For Sale By Owner

Wk 10 Divi Links Golf & Beach
Rm 2301 1Br/2Ba RTU:Exp2044
+10 Accelerated Sleeps 4 \$7500
Wk 9 Divi Little Bay St. Maarten
Rm 621 1Br/2Ba RTU:
Exp.2042
+10 Accelerated Sleeps 4 \$4500
Ritchey5652@comcast.net

216297



Editor

Caribbean Speed Printers N.V.
Aruba Bank N.V. Acc. #332668
Caribbean Mercantile Bank N.V.
Acc. #23951903
RBC Royal Bank Acc. #1330772

Editors

Pilar Flores
Richard Brooks
Angenette Figuereo

Sales

Mark Gomes
Sulaika Croes

Classifieds

classified@cspnv.com

Distribution and Collection

accounting@bondia.com

Social / Website

Juan Luis Pinto

Weststraat 22
T: 582-7800

E: news@arubatoday.com
W: www.arubatoday.com
f @arubatoday



HEALTH

DOCTOR ON DUTY

Oranjestad

Hospital 7:00 pm / 10:00pm
Tel. 527 4000

San Nicolas

Imsan 24 hours
Tel.524 8833

PHARMACY ON DUTY

Oranjestad:

Eagle Tel. 587 9011

San Nicolas:

San Nicolas Tel. 584 5712

OTHER

Dental Clinic 587 9850
Blood Bank Aruba 587 0002
Urgent Care 586 0448
Walk-In Doctor's Clinic
+297 588 0539

EMERGENCY

| | |
|----------------|----------|
| Police | 100 |
| Oranjestad | 527 3140 |
| Noord | 527 3200 |
| Sta. Cruz | 527 2900 |
| San Nicolas | 584 5000 |
| Police Tipline | 11141 |
| Ambulancia | 911 |
| Fire Dept. | 115 |
| Red Cross | 582 2219 |

TAXI SERVICES

| | |
|------------------|----------|
| Taxi Tas | 587 5900 |
| Prof. Taxi | 588 0035 |
| Taxi D.T.S. | 587 2300 |
| Taxi Serv. Aruba | 583 3232 |
| A1 Taxi Serv. | 280 2828 |

TRAVEL INFO

| | |
|-------------------|----------|
| Aruba Airport | 524 2424 |
| American Airlines | 582 2700 |
| Avianca | 588 0059 |
| Jet Blue | 588 2244 |
| Surinam | 582 7896 |

AID FOUNDATIONS

FAVI- Visually Impaired
Tel. 582 5051

Alcoholics Anonymous
Tel. 736 2952

Narcotics Anonymous
Tel. 583 8989

Fundacion Contra Violencia
Relacional Tel. 583 5400

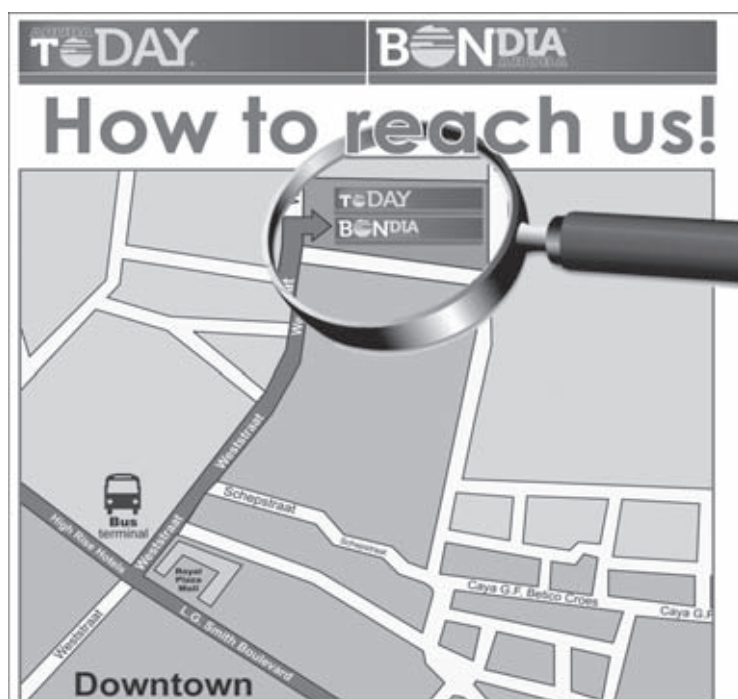
Centre for Diabetes
Tel. 524 8888

Child Abuse Prevention
Tel. 582 4433

Quota Club Tel. 525 2672

General Info

Phone Directory Tel. 118



Bad news for Verstappen's F1 rivals as Red Bull looks better



Red Bull driver Max Verstappen of the Netherlands, right, and Red Bull driver Sergio Perez of Mexico arrive for a Formula One pre season test at the Bahrain International Circuit in Sakhir, Bahrain, Thursday, Feb. 23, 2023.

Associated Press

By **JEROME PUGMIRE**
AP Auto Racing Writer

The bad news for Max Verstappen's rivals heading into the Formula One season is that Red Bull's car could even be better.

That's saying something considering Verstappen won a record 15 races last year on his way to a sec-

ond straight world title. But Verstappen topped the first day of F1 testing at the Sakhir circuit in Bahrain and teammate Sergio Perez led the last on Saturday. It's scary to think that Red Bull could head into next weekend's season-opening race, held on the same circuit, with none of the reli-

ability woes that saw Verstappen fail to finish two of the first three races in 2022. Even despite that setback, he crushed everyone.

"The car is working really well, just going through a lot of things we wanted to try. It's very interesting what we've been trying, so very positive days for me," Verstappen said. "Overall I think it's definitely an improvement to last year." Perez echoed that, saying Red Bull will start "much stronger than we did last year."

Charles Leclerc won two of the first three races last season before Ferrari faded badly. He says the car feels good yet modifications are still needed.

"I expect us to be a bit quicker on the straights, maybe struggling a bit more in the corners," the 25-year-old from Monaco said. "I can say we are still working quite a bit on find-

ing the sweet spot in terms of set up."

Ferrari was third and fourth in the first test; sixth-best in the second, and then fourth and fifth on Saturday.

"We've had a very intense three days of testing," Leclerc said. "We still have some work to do. Red Bull seems to be very strong." Seven-time F1 champion Lewis Hamilton finished second Saturday, but there's room to improve.

At least the ground effect — known as porpoising — which hindered the team so much in 2022 seems to have been eradicated.

"It's nice to drive without the bouncing for once," Hamilton said. "But there are still some underlying things we're working through."

F1 race director Niels Wittich is confident bouncing has been fully resolved.

"I think porpoising is not a topic anymore," he said.

"I think we and the teams sorted it quite well last year." Hamilton is F1's record holder with 103 wins but did not win a race last year, and the 38-year-old British driver feels the W14 car has some limitations.

Teammate George Russell broke down with a hydraulics issue on Friday, leaving trackside engineering director Andrew Shovlin confused. "Stopping on track with a reliability issue wasn't great and we have struggled to get the car balanced well across the changing conditions," Shovlin said. Russell, who won one race last year, placed only eighth in Saturday's last test day and said challenging for victory in Bahrain "may be a bit of a stretch." Among the surprises in testing: Alfa Romeo topped Day 2 through Zhou Guanyu and was third Saturday with Valtteri Bottas behind the wheel. □

AP source: Machado, Padres agree to new \$350M, 11-year deal

By **BERNIE WILSON**
AP Sports Writer

All-Star slugger Manny Machado has agreed to a new \$350 million, 11-year contract that will keep him with the San Diego Padres through 2033, according to a person with knowledge of the deal.

The person spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because Machado must pass a physical before the deal, which was first reported by ESPN, is finalized. Machado was scheduled to bat second Sunday in the Padres' spring training game against the Arizona Diamondbacks.

Machado, 30, had said that after this season, he planned to opt out of the \$300 million, 10-year free agent deal he signed in 2019. With the \$120 million he already has received, the new deal increases the free-spending Padres' commitment to Machado to \$470 million over 15 years. Machado, who has helped turn the Padres into a World Series contender, finished



San Diego Padres' Manny Machado follows through on an RBI-double during the third inning in Game 2 of a baseball NL Division Series against the Los Angeles Dodgers, Oct. 12, 2022, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

second in the NL MVP race last year. He'll anchor a superstar-laden lineup that includes Xander Bogaerts, Juan Soto and Fernando Tatis Jr., who can return on April 20 from an 80-game suspension for performance-enhancing drugs.

Earlier in spring training, Machado said a deadline for negotiating a new deal had passed, but owner Peter Seidler has said that retaining the smooth-fielding third baseman was his top priority.

Seidler, a member of the

O'Malley family that once owned the Dodgers, hasn't been afraid to spend big money in pursuit of the franchise's first World Series title. The Padres haven't been to the Fall Classic since 1998, when they were swept by the New York Yankees.

Hometown product Joe Musgrove was given a \$100 million, five-year deal in July. The Padres signed Bogaerts to a \$280 million, 11-year deal just after the winter meetings and signed ace Yu Darvish to a new \$108 million, six-year deal earlier this month. With the flashy Tatis sidelined all of last year, first due to injury and then the suspension, Machado was a steadying force in helping lead the Padres on a thrilling run to the NL Championship Series, where they lost in five games to the Philadelphia Phillies. The Padres eliminated the 101-win New York Mets in the wild-card round and then beat the 111-win rival Dodgers in the NL Division Series. Machado batted .298 with 32 home runs and 102 RBIs. The \$350-million deal will be the fourth-largest contract behind Mike Trout (\$426.5 million for 12 years), Mookie Betts (\$365 million for 12 years) and Aaron Judge (\$360 million for nine years). However, the \$31.8 million average will rank just 16th. □

Beyond Kane, much uncertainty ahead of NHL trade deadline

By **STEPHEN WHYNO**
AP Hockey Writer

The NHL's top contenders did not wait until the last minute to do their shopping before the trade deadline. League-leading Boston got bigger and tougher by adding Dmitry Orlov and Garnet Hathaway. Toronto got defensive by trading for Ryan O'Reilly. The Rangers answered their New York-rival Islanders' move for Bo Horvat by acquiring Vladimir Tarasenko — and they're not done yet.

A handful of big moves already have been made around the league, including a couple on Sunday, and many more are expected before the trade deadline Friday at 3 p.m. Eastern. Patrick Kane going from Chicago to the Rangers is the most highly anticipated deal on the docket, and yet plenty of uncertainty remains about what else will shake out.

"I am certainly not going to predict where the market goes next," Bruins general manager Don Sweeney said last week after making what could be his first big trade or his only big one. "That's for all teams, all 32 teams, to continue to discuss and those discussions will continue."

Discussions led San Jose to trade winger Timo Meier to New Jersey, a person with knowledge of the situation told The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the deal had not been announced. Other talks culminated with St. Louis sending forward Ivan Barbashev to Vegas for 20-year-old prospect Zach Dean and Dallas getting 20-goal-scorer Evgenii Dadnov from Montreal for Denis Gurianov.

More are ongoing around Kane, San Jose's Erik Karlsson, Arizona's Jakob Chychrun, Philadelphia's James van Riemsdyk and Washington's handful of pending free agents after the perennially contending Capitals went from buyers to sellers.

Prices have been high on a lot of players, most notably Chychrun, who is the top player left to change plac-

es by the deadline.

"I can see the marketplace taking towards the end of the week to sort out for some teams," said Hart Levine of PuckPedia, a website that tracks the salary cap and player movement.

WHAT ALREADY HAS HAPPENED

The Islanders made their splash in late January, getting Horvat, a 30-goal scorer, from Vancouver and signing him to an eight-year extension. The Rangers, after the All-Star break in early February, got Tarasenko and big defenseman Niko Mikkola from St. Louis to start loading up to try to repeat or improve on their trip to the Eastern Conference final.

"You want to win, and you

want to be a part of good hockey teams who can win," Mikkola said. "The whole team is good, and we can go deep. We all know that."

The Maple Leafs want to go deep, but they haven't won a playoff series since 2004 — before the NHL had a salary cap. Acquiring O'Reilly, a playoff MVP in 2019 when the Blues won the Stanley Cup, and tough depth forward Noel Acciari sets them up better for that pursuit, if their goaltending holds up.

WHAT'S ABOUT TO HAPPEN

The worst-kept secret in the sport is Kane's connection to the Rangers.

After New York got Tarasenko, thinking the price for Meier or Kane would be too high, Kane said: "If things



Chicago Blackhawks right wing Patrick Kane (88) skates during before an NHL hockey game against the New Jersey Devils, Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2022, in Newark, N.J.

Associated Press

were going to happen ... that was a team that I was definitely looking at."

Not much of a poker face, but Kane has a full no-movement clause, meaning the three-time Cup champion who was league

MVP in 2015-16 can choose where he wants to go. Rangers GM Chris Drury took care of his end of the money aspect Saturday by trading Vitali Kravtsov to Vancouver and waiving Jake Leschyshyn. □

Everyday triple points

Totally sanitized table and chips.

ORCHID CASINO

Located in the Riu Antillas (formerly the Westin)

welcomes you to **RESERVE YOUR OWN PRIVATE TABLE** for you and your party.

RESERVE your Private Table

Call 525 7777 ext.209 to make a reservation.



Start this year's vacation with this amazing experience in the heart of Costa Linda Beach Resort.

Water's Edge Restaurant is a jewel many had the pleasure to find!

Eagle Beach – When you think of a restaurant that pleases the needs of a whole family or a large group of people with all different tastes? Think Water's Edge Restaurant. Located at the shore of Aruba's most wonderful beach, The Eagle Beach Aruba. Water's Edge Restaurant is guaranteed to serve you a fantastic magical night to remember. Whether you prefer to enjoy the view from indoors air conditioned comfort, outdoors in the soft tropical breeze or under a palapa with your toes in the sand. This spectacular restaurant offers the best ocean view sunset or sky full of stars dinner while the crispy Caribbean night wind caresses your face and plays with your hair.

From the minute you arrive there will be a great staff welcoming you with the most contagious smiles and warmth. The intense menu with a great variety of appetizers, main courses and delicious desserts will not disappoint. Seafood, Steaks and international favorites. All on one menu specially made just for you.

Culinary Voyage

Start your gastronomic journey with a scrumptious appetizer such as the Maryland Crab Cakes, maybe the Crispy Calamari or the mouthwatering creamy Garlic Tarragon Shrimp.

You can also opt for a classic French Onion Soup, a Lobster Bisque or the famously Water's Edge House Wedge, a crisp wedge of fresh romaine lettuce topped with homemade blue cheese dressing, diced tomatoes, chopped bacon, caramelized pecans and blue cheese crumbles, drizzled with balsamic reduction. This followed by the Chef's special of seafood such as Fresh salmon filet seasoned and grilled, topped with lemon cilantro butter and served with homemade mashed potatoes and fresh asparagus, a nice plate of Ahi Tuna or a succulent pasta dish like the Florentina Fettuccine Alfredo. Meat Lovers will have their fix with choices of a devourable 22oz. Bone-In "Tomahawk" Rib-Eye, pan seared in garlic infused oil and finished in the oven or our juicy N.Y Strip Loin, seasoned & grilled. All our steaks options are seasoned with a blend of kosher salt and freshly cracked black pepper. Served with homemade mashed potatoes, seasoned vegetables and a choice of red wine reduction, green peppercorn demi glace, mushroom sauce, or bacon blue cheese butter. For extra sides the options are delectable. Fresh asparagus, seasonal vegetables, mashed or baked potatoes, fries or rice and beans. Combine your personal choice with one of the most exclusive wine from the

great selection of international wines to compliment your dish. Kids will enjoy every item of the specially compiled kids menu and there are also optional dishes for all vegans, vegetarians and gluten-free guests. To end the culinary voyage with some luscious sweetness, the desserts are wild. From a piece of coconut flan, NY cheese cake, carrot cake, chocolate brownie or our classic Tiramisu with kahlua and amaretto served with chocolate sauce and coffee jelly. Not to mention the fresh and light piece of key lime pie.

Creating memories

If you are planning a birthday dinner, here you will receive a nice bottle of champagne to take home with you to extend your experience even further whether on the beach or your own private balcony.

Live entertainment

Just about every day of the week, there is a different live entertainment by the best local artists for you to enjoy. Whether you're in a romantic mood, or more in a swinging mood, there is absolutely a night especially for you where you can combine great music with delicious cocktails mixed with concoctions. In addition, Water's Edge offers three daily Happy Hours from 12pm-1pm, 4pm-6pm and again from 9pm-10pm with all premium brands specially priced.

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Whether you join us for breakfast, lunch or dinner, Water's Edge Restaurant & Bar offers a relaxed and inspirational dining experience overlooking the beautiful Eagle Beach with spectacular ocean views. Gather with friends and family for drinks and appetizers or a night of pampering and relaxation.



Thank you to all our guests

From the bottom of our hearts, we would like to Thank all of our guests who showed us so much love and support all throughout the year, and hopefully will continue to do so in the years to come. What we are most grateful for is that we could get back to doing what we love, which is looking after our guests. So, thank you for every dinner, lunch, breakfast, every to-go order, every glass of wine, every birthday, anniversary and date-night that you spent with us this last year. To our new guests, Welcome! We hope you to see you back soon! ☐



"Water's Edge Restaurant is where magnificent beach views, amazing food and excellent service come together."

Water's Edge is open daily from 8am – 11pm

To reserve your table please call **+297 583-8000 / ext 8106** or direct line **+297 586-9494**

For more information about the menus, entertainment and hours, please visit the website **watersedge-aruba.com**

